



The St. Petersburg Chapter
Florida Society
Sons of the American Revolution
CHARTERED 1928

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April 2019

CHAPTER WEBSITES

www.stpetesar.org

2019 UPDATED CHAPTER MEETING & EVENT CALENDAR

Please mark your calendars

May 18 - St. Petersburg Yacht Club, 11AM
Knight Essay Winner, Election of Officers

THIS MONTH IN REVOLUTIONARY WAR HISTORY

1775 – Battles of Lexington and Concord

1777 – Battle of Bound Brook (NJ)

1780 – Siege of Charleston



President's Message



Dear Compatriots:

It's beautiful to have Easter and Passover coincide. This is a very hopeful period in the religious calendar for today and the future.

I have concern about things some politicians are saying about socialism, which to me as a senior citizen, are nonsensical. Additionally, greater than 30% of our younger people (18 – 26) think that socialism is good and capitalism is corrupt. Lots of free stuff is good and earning an income is a troubling idea. This translates to a strong warning: I'd better take these ideas and aspirations seriously!

I'm a direct male descendant of a Mayflower passenger and Compact signer. Some 400 years ago, 90% of the population was illiterate, desperately poor, and owned no land. Our constitution set forth a framework that included separation of church and state, a system of governance that protected the individual in an equal and fair manner, and promoted ownership of assets. The flourishing of capitalism has helped pull billions of people out of poverty. Socialism has never worked anywhere or anytime. It has only caused social disruption and poverty to the people. Everyone is equally destitute, except the "leaders". Do I want to live in the bitter world of envy politics which will lead to socialism? My answer is a resounding NO.

A recent article in the Tampa Bay Times by Ms. Connie Schultz quoted a Rev. Coffin: "There are three kinds of Patriots, two bad, one good. The bad ones are the uncritical lovers and loveless critics. Good patriots carry on a lover's quarrel with their country, a reflection of God's lover's quarrel with all the world." Babble!

Let's go back to that definition of a Patriot. I'm a patron of our system of government which has and will continue to allow Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its



constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag; and to defend it against all enemies. Socialism is the enemy of our system of governance!

See you at our May 18 meeting.

Bob Rogers

Board Chairman's Message



Dear Compatriots:

Governor DeSantis' Executive Order in January abolishing Common Core in Florida, and inviting stakeholders for input into a new structure is an ideal opportunity for us to work to correct the major deficiencies in Florida's treatment of Civics, and early American History, especially our Founding Fathers and the documents they created.

Our Education Initiative has assembled some extraordinarily influential talented resources, and I am confident we can have an impact consistent with what our Federal Charter charges us to do, and with what our National Society has approved in terms of educational outreach subjects and content.

We here in the Tampa Bay area are all very concerned about the lack emphasis and the shallow treatment of vital Americanism elements, and as stakeholders and Patriotic leaders, we have an invitation by the Governor and the Department of Education to provide input on this critical matter.

Our initial meeting Friday evening, April 26, was excellent and very productive. Our chapter was represented by John Stewart, Peter Ford, and me. Dr. John Goolsby, president of the Tampa SAR Chapter, also attended. We were fortunate and delighted to have Brooks Lyle and Colleen Wilson from NSSAR on conference call as well as consultants Dr. Roger Smith and Donna Passmore.



Further, we were particularly heartened that after considerable discussion and review of our **Statement of Purpose**, the core and purpose of our initiative was seen as consistent with what the NSSAR Outreach Education mission statement proclaims, and already approved by the NSSAR National Congress several years ago. Also, it is consistent with our Federal Charter. No objections were voiced to the document as written, and after review and discussion, the Tampa Bay SAR Education Initiative's Statement of Purpose was unanimously approved by the Tampa Bay Education SAR Initiative Board Members.

In Patriotic Service,
Charles

Registrar's Report



Six applications have been approved this month by NSSAR, as our chapter continues to grow. If you know of anyone who has an interest in becoming a member, please let them know that we are always willing to assist them with the application process.

If you are preparing a supplemental application, or working with a relative or friend on their application, please be sure to use the most current version of the form, or the interactive online application.

Respectfully submitted,
Will Scott





**Sons of the American Revolution
St Petersburg Chapter
April 20, 2019**

Call to Order: The monthly meeting held at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club was called to order at 11:30 AM by President Bob Rogers and the invocation was given by John Stewart.

Guests: Marine Sergeants Brent Johnson and Jared Defoore, DAR members Coleen Pauley Perry and Cathy Paunov, and prospective member Peter Bruno.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the March 16 meeting were approved as submitted.

Officer Reports & Presentations

John Stewart presented our chapter with a streamer for our participation in a ceremony commemorating the battle of Thomas Creek in northeast Florida, in which militia members were attacked in 1777 by Loyalists, British soldiers, and Creek Indians. It is considered the only Revolutionary War battle in Florida.

John Stewart reported on the Nominating Committee's slate for the 2019-2020 chapter year. The membership will vote at the May 18 meeting.

President: Bob Rogers

Vice President: Mark Foster

Secretary & Treasurer: Peter Ford

Registrar: Will Scott

Chaplain & Historian: John Stewart

Charles Butler updated the members on our Education Initiative. We are working with the Tampa chapter, with support from several DAR chapters. The initial meeting will be on April 26. Our September 14 meeting will include a presentation by Joseph Hardesty, the NSSAR library director, on the US census and family research.

Guest Speakers

After introductory comments by SSgt. Johnson, Sgt. Defoore spoke about their role as Marine recruiters in Pinellas County. Their challenge is "finding our replacements." Many millennials are ill-informed about the military and the careers available, as only 20% of the jobs in the Corps are combat-related.



There are 360 different job classifications, including photography, technology, medical, and legal. The public is focused on warfare, and often overlooks the benefit of four years of paid college. He also noted that some high schools are more “open” to military recruiting visits than others.

Benediction & Recessional

John Stewart gave the benediction, and President Rogers adjourned the meeting at 1:30 PM.

Submitted by Peter Ford, Secretary



Compatriot John Stewart participated in a ceremony commemorating the battle of Thomas Creek in northeast Florida





President Rogers (center) with Marine Corps Sergeants Defoore and Johnson

